

Appln No.: 10/646,391
Amendment Dated: February 24, 2005
Reply to Office Action of February 1, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 1, 2005 for the above-captioned application.

In response to the Restriction Requirement Applicants hereby elect antisense oligonucleotides that span the translation initiation site and Seq. ID No. 4. Claims 1-10 read on this elected invention.

The Examiner asserts that claims 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 contain improper Markush groups. While Applicants do not object to a requirement for an election of species, they do disagree with any characterization of these claims as improper. In particular, these claims are dependent claims, and each of the members in the Markush group shares the common property of being useful in the method as claimed.

In the process of reviewing the claims, a typographical error in the dependency of claim 10 was noted. This response includes an amendment correcting this error.

Respectfully submitted,



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